GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:470
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2008
CLEANLINESS OF THE RAILWAY STATION
Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the station premises and trains generally remain dirty despite the fact that about 1.4 crore passengers frequent the railway stations and travel in the trains every day all over the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Railways proposes to impose fines and imprisonment on people who dirty its premises;

(d) if so, the details in this regard;

(e) whether the Railways proposes to set up a separate authority for supervision of cleanliness and apprehending offenders;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) the time by which such authority will start functioning; and

(h) the other steps taken/being taken to maintain a clean and hygienic environment in station premises and in trains?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) & (d): Provision for imposition of fines and imprisonment on persons found dirtying railway station premises Sc trains already exists under section 145(b) of the Railway`s Act 1989 as committing nuisance. The section 145(b) reads as under:`if any person in any railway carriage or upon any part of railway commits any nuisance or act of indecency or uses abusive or obscene language may be removed from the railway by any railway servant and shall, in addition to the forfeiture of his pass or ticket, be punishable with imprisonment, which may extend to six months and with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees. Provided that in the absence of special and adequate reasons to the contrary to be mentioned in the judgement of the coiirt, such punishment shall not be less than

(i) a fine of one hundred rupees in the case of conviction for the first offence; and

(ii) imprisonment one month and a fine of two hundred and fifty rupees,in the case of conviction for second or subsequent offence.`

(e): No, Sir.

(f) & (g): Do not arise.

(h): To improve the standard of cleanliness at railway stations,steps like introduction of mechanised cleaning, provision of washable aprons, provision of Pay & Use` toilets, cleanliness awareness campaigns etc.have been undertaken.Regular inspections are conducted by various officials at the railway stations to monitor cleanliness and also to identify weak areas and take remedial measures. Besides, there is a system of periodic inspections by multi-disciplinary Service Improvement Groups (SIGs) of appropriate level to inspect passenger amenities including cleanliness at stations and running trains and to suggest/ take remedial measures for rectifying the deficiencies and shortcomings.Drives are launched from time to time particularly during rush seasons to have greater impact.